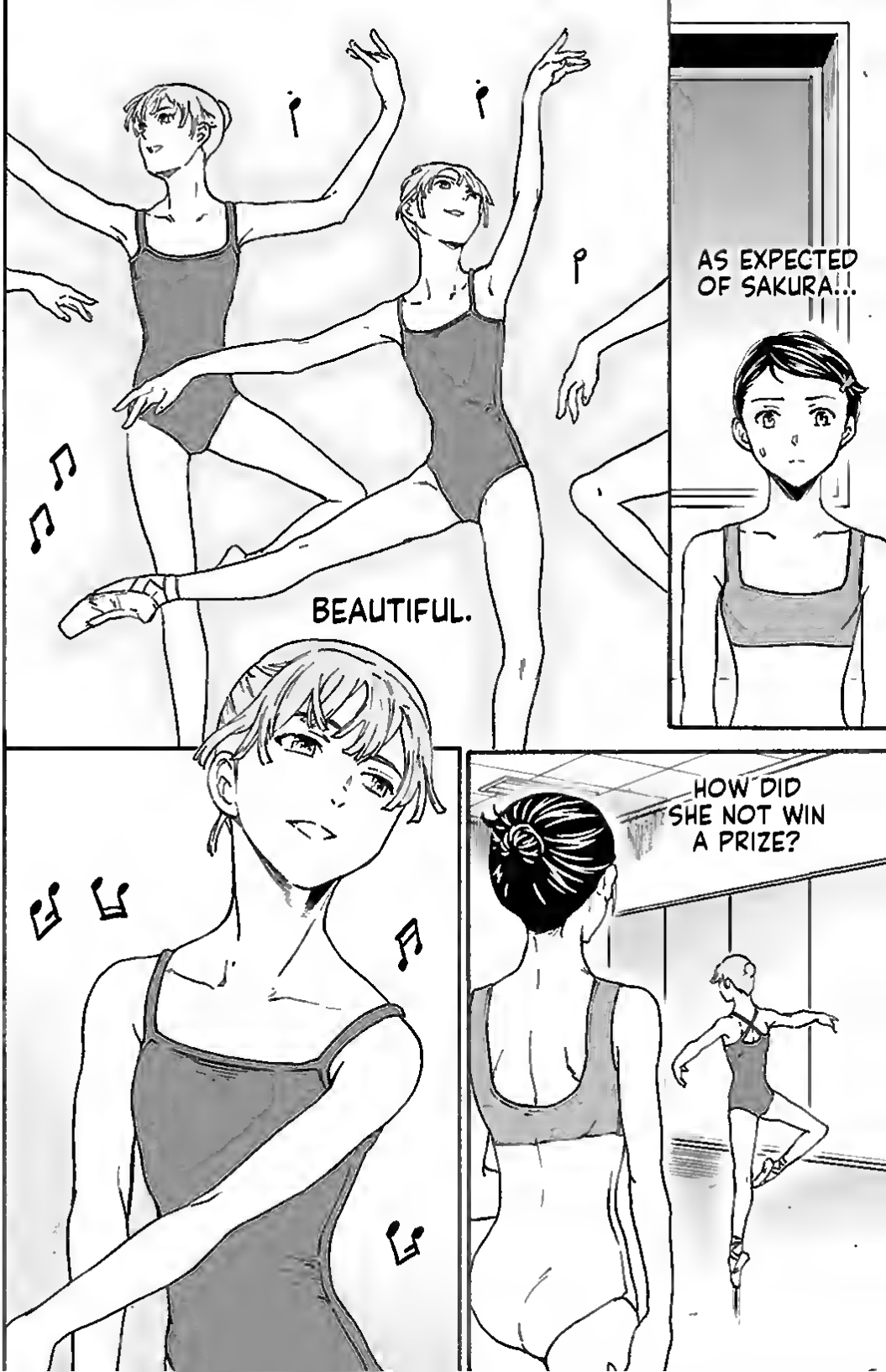
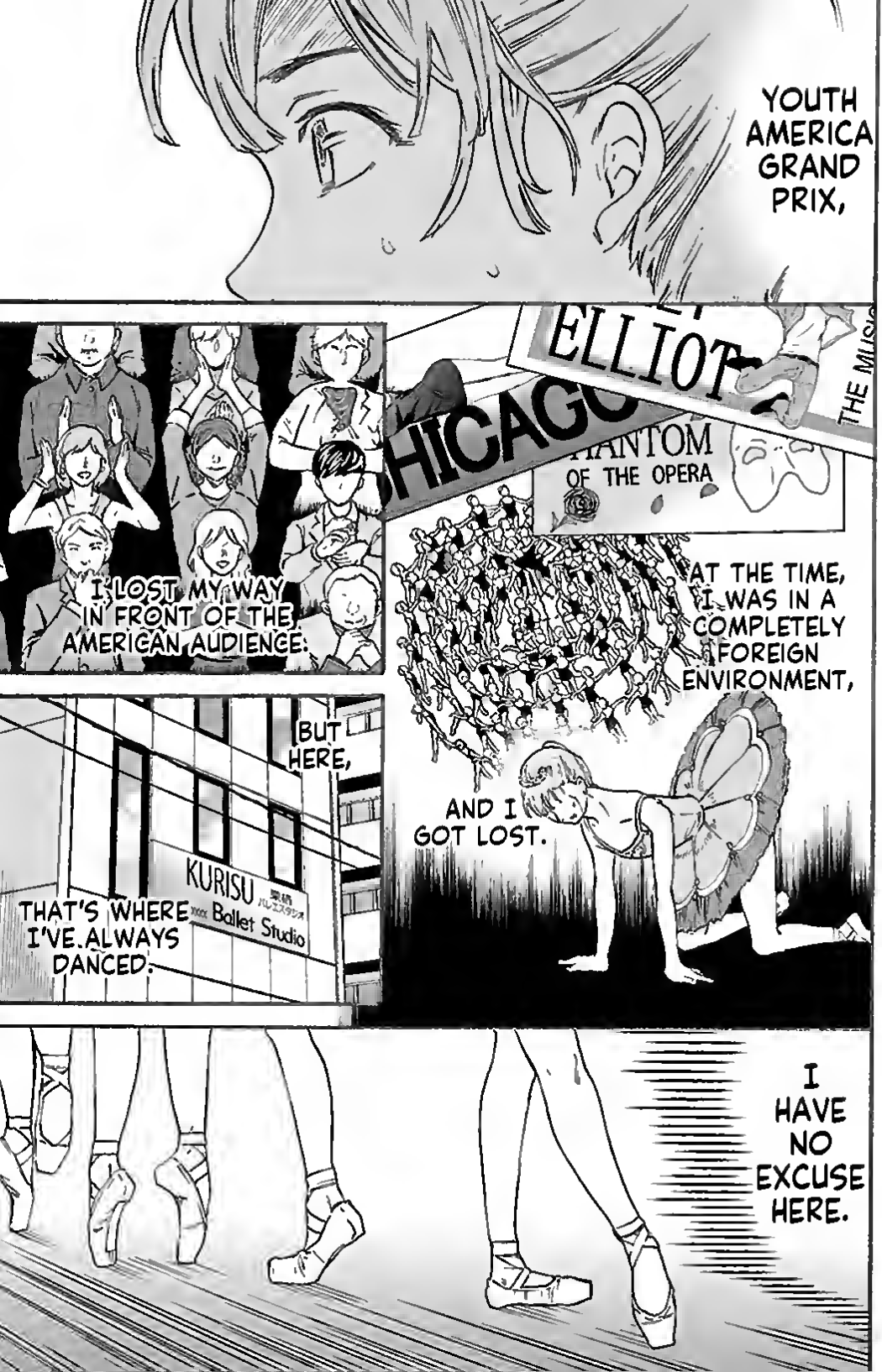
Scène.032 Récompense

I'LL GO FIRST SINCE I BROUGHT IT UP.
LET'S BEGIN, THEN
A BATTLE OF AURORAS... IS SHE TRYING TO MAKE FUN OF ME?
I'VE BEEN DANCING THIS VARIATION SINCE LONG BEFORE THE PRELIMINARIES ALREADY.
DID SHE EVER PRACTICE IT? I'M WILLING TO BET THAT SHE, AT BEST, ONLY REMEMBERS THE CHOREOGRAPHY.

I'M SURE EMA WOULD BE ABLE TO DO IT AFTER WATCHING IT JUST ONCE.
IT'S A CHOREO-GRAPHY THAT DISPLAYS YOUR BEAUTY FROM ALL ANGLES,
AND HER TECH-NIQUE IS FLAW-LESS, TOO.
BUT THIS VARIATION'S CHOREOGRAPHY ISN'T WHAT'S HARD ABOUT IT.
IT'S CALM AND COMPOSED...
IT SUITS HER VERY WELL.

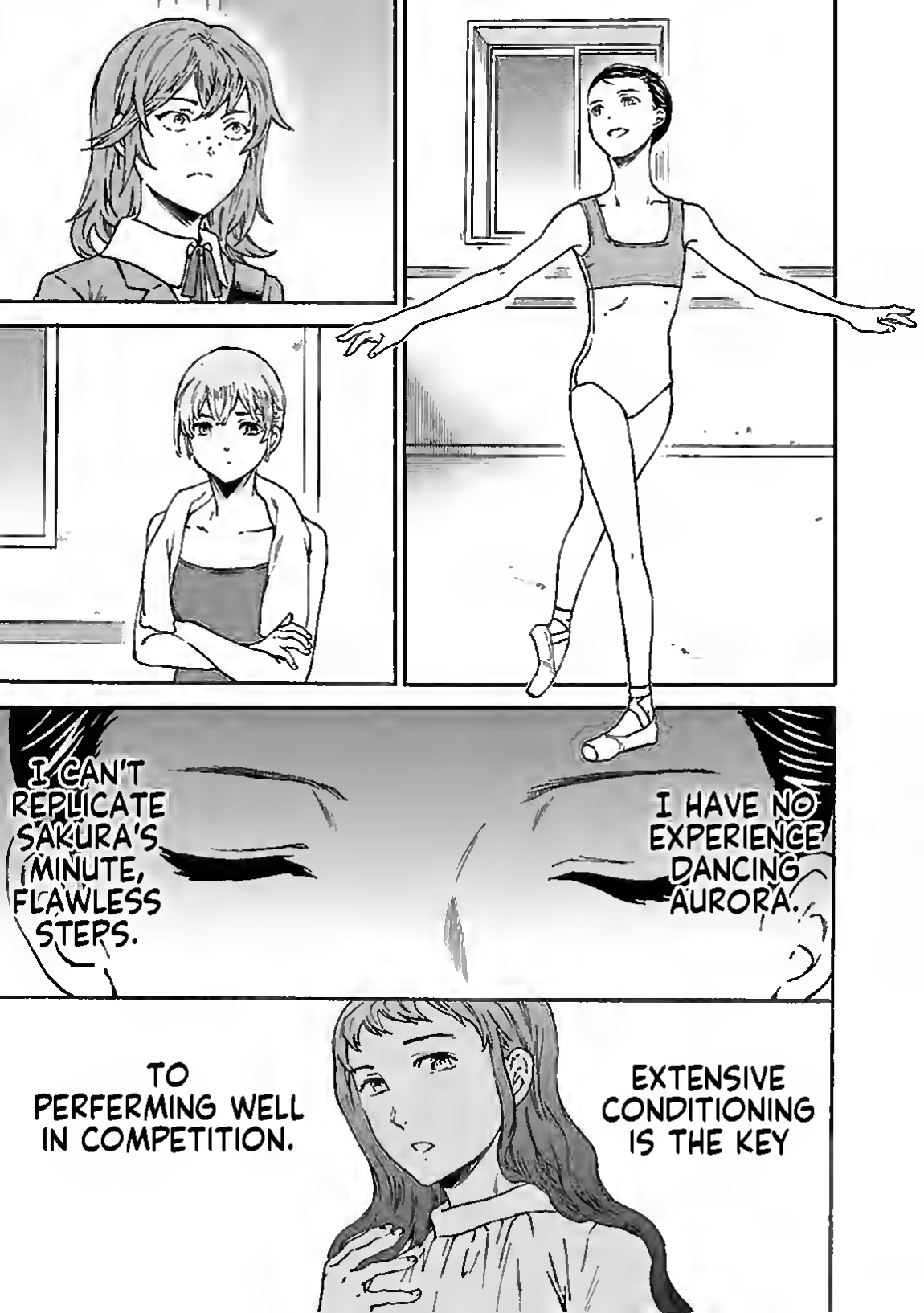

AS EXPECTED OF SAKURA...
BEAUTIFUL.
HOW DID SHE NOT WIN A PRIZE?

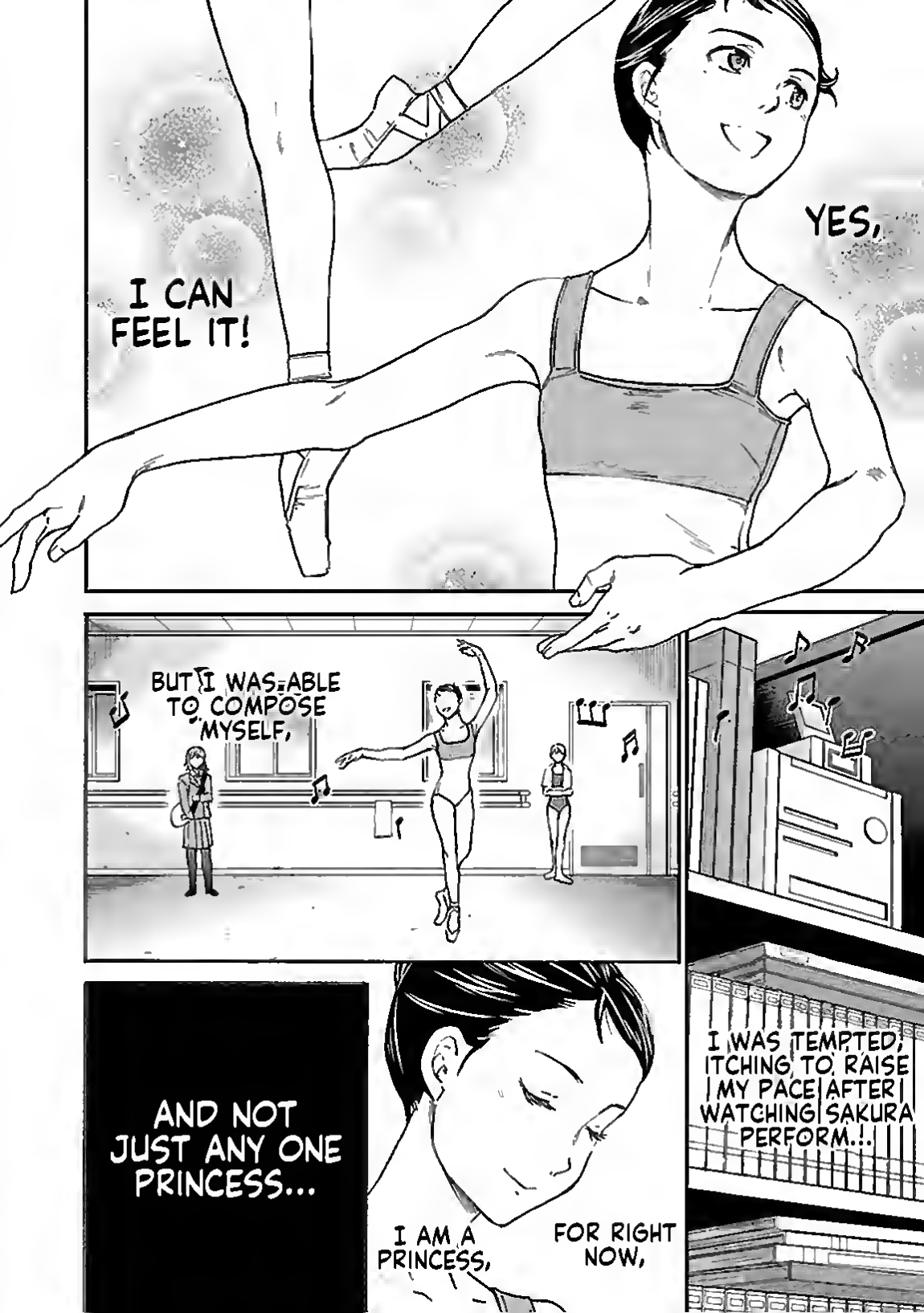

YOUTH AMERICA GRAND PRIX,
I LOST MY WAY IN FRONT OF THE AMERICAN AUDIENCE.
ELLIOT
THE MUSIC
CHICAGO
PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
AT THE TIME, I WAS IN A COMPLETELY FOREIGN ENVIRONMENT,
AND I GOT LOST.
BUT HERE,
KURISU
Ballet Studio
THAT'S WHERE I'VE ALWAYS DANCED.
I HAVE NO EXCUSE HERE.

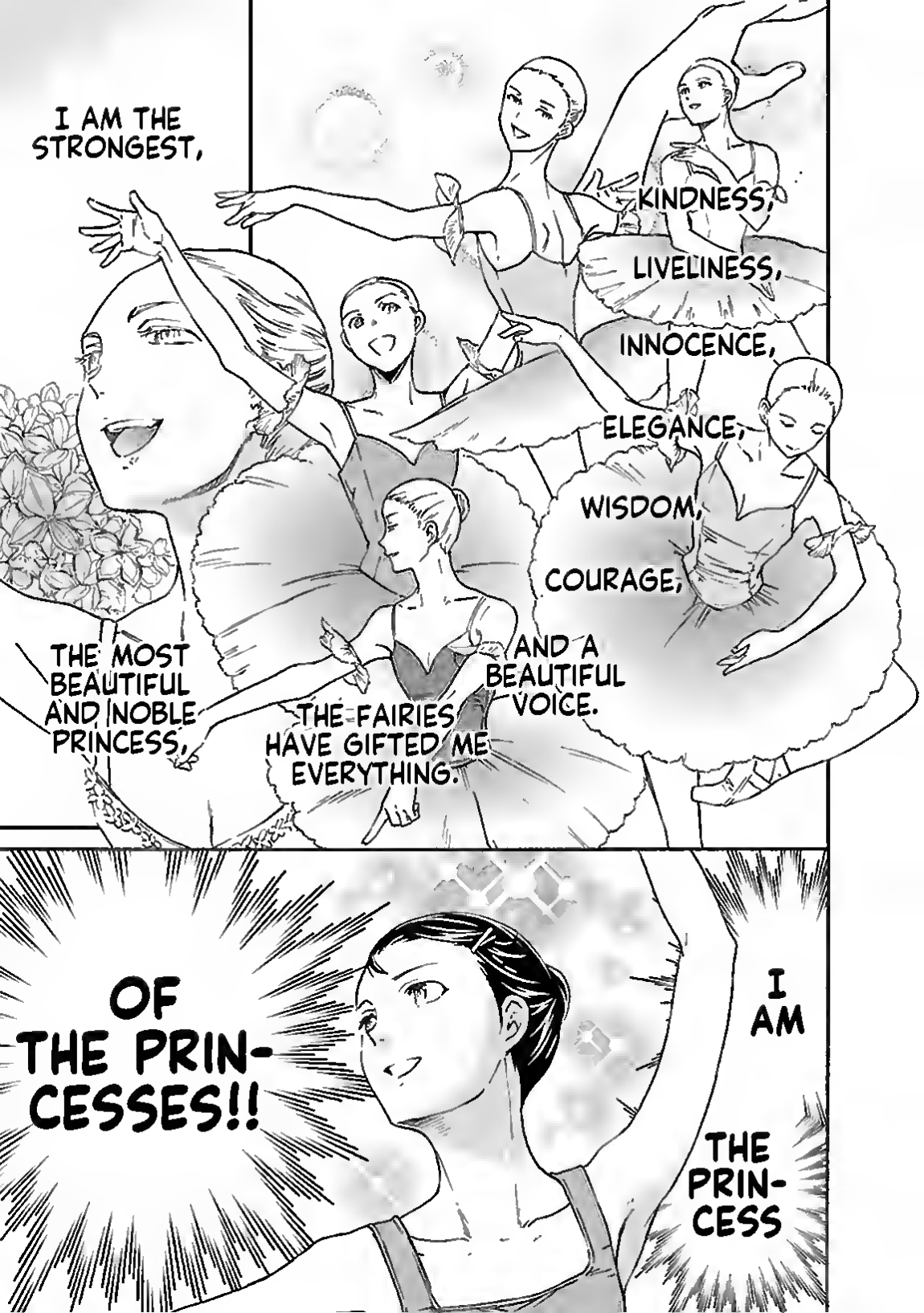
I'LL SHOW YOU!!
THE DIFFER-ENCE BETWEEN US!
HER EVERY STEP IS CONSCIENTIOUS, CALCULATED,
WHERE THEY MAY LOOK FLASHY ELSEWHERE,
HERE... THEY LOOK EFFORTLESS.

I CAN FEEL KURISU-SENSEI'S RIGOROUS CRAFT IN HER,
LIKE SHE'S DANCING EXACTLY AS SHE'S TOLD TO.
SHE WON'T EVEN DOUBLE TURNS
DESPITE CLEARLY HAVING THE ABILITY TO!

A PERFECT AURORA,
PAST THE UNCANNY VALLEY.
IT'S KIND OF UNCOM-FORTABLE TO LOOK AT...
WHAT WILL YOU DO, KANA-DE?
TO THINK THAT THIS IS NOT WORTHY OF A PRIZE AT THE YAGP...
HOW WILL YOU DANCE?!


I CAN'T REPLICATE SAKURA'S MINUTE, FLAWLESS STEPS.
I HAVE NO EXPERIENCE DANCING AURORA.
TO PERFERMING WELL IN COMPETITION.
EXTENSIVE CONDITIONING IS THE KEY


I CAN FEEL IT!
YES,
BUT I WAS ABLE TO COMPOSE MYSELF,
I WAS TEMPTED, ITCHING TO RAISE MY PACE AFTER WATCHING SAKURA PERFORM...!
AND NOT JUST ANY ONE PRINCESS...
I AM A PRINCESS,
FOR RIGHT NOW,


I AM THE STRONGEST,
KINDNESS,
LIVELINESS,
INNOCENCE,
ELEGANCE,
WISDOM,
COURAGE,
AND A BEAUTIFUL VOICE.
THE FAIRIES HAVE GIFTED ME EVERYTHING.
THE MOST BEAUTIFUL AND NOBLE PRINCESS,
I AM THE PRINCESS
OF THE PRINCESSES!!

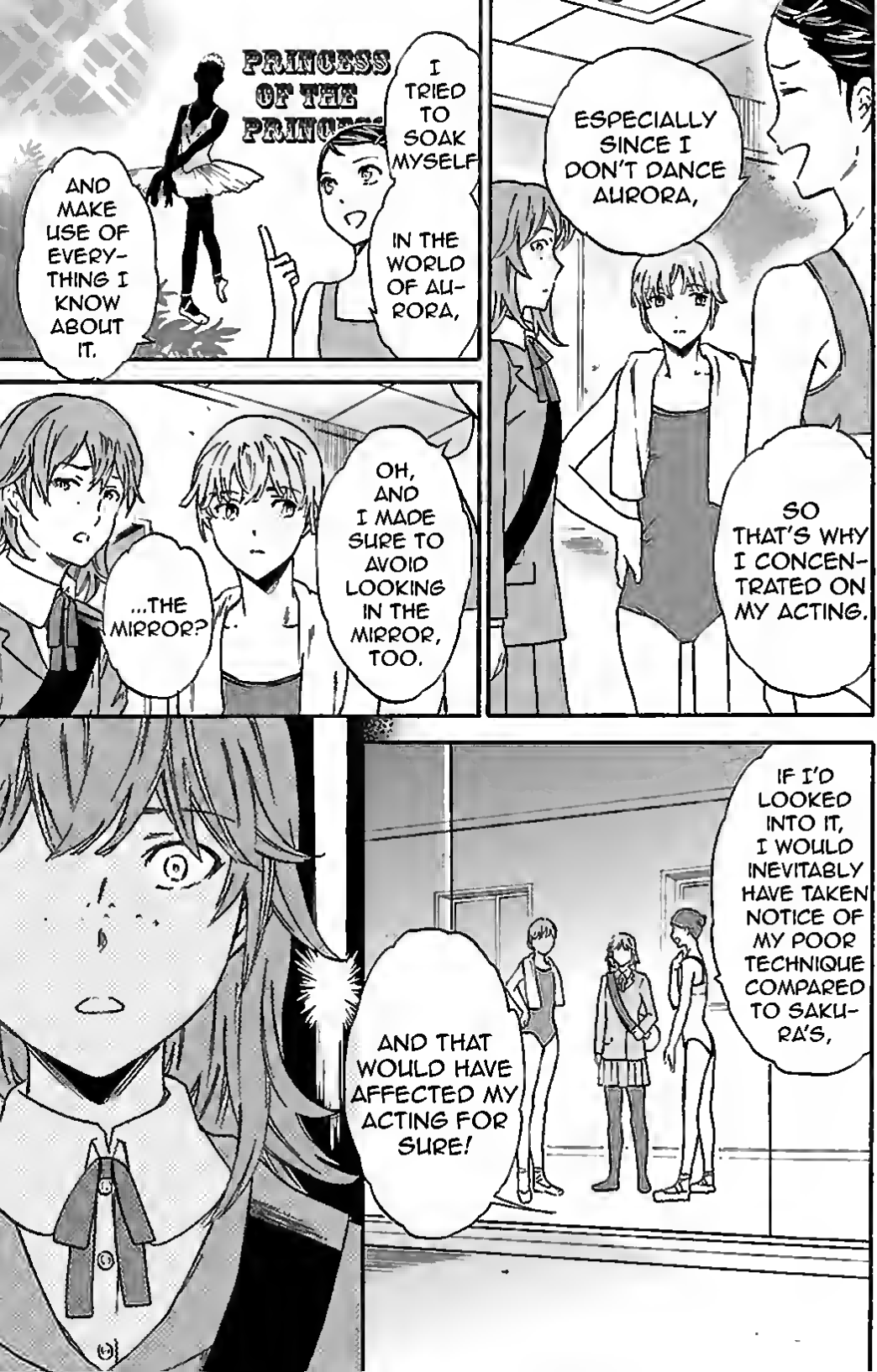
WELCOME
TO BAROQUE.

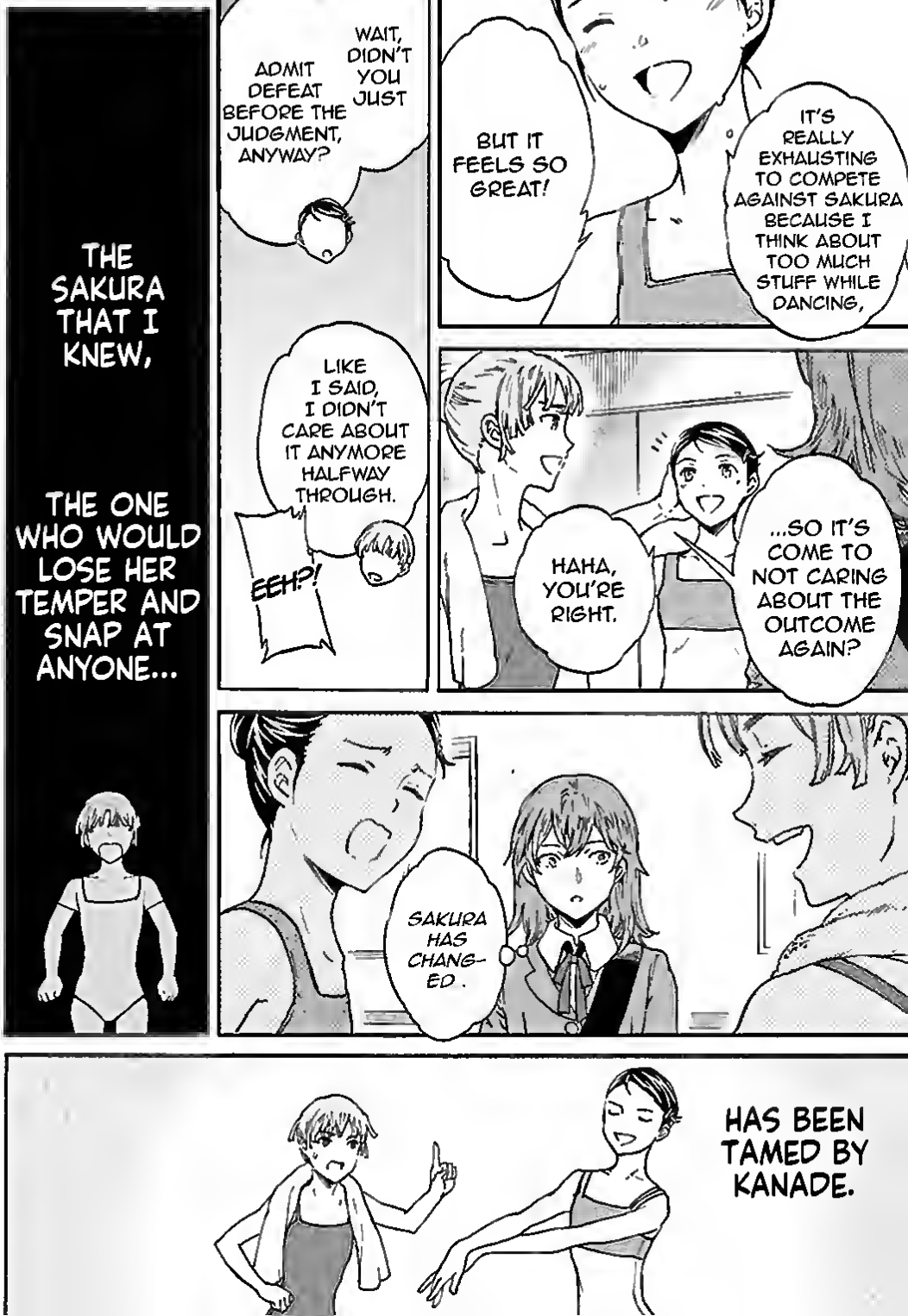
I AM OVERFLOWING WITH HAPPINESS
TO BE JOINING HANDS WITH YOU, OH PRINCE OF MY DESTINY,
IN FRONT OF EVERYONE PRESENT AT THE COURT ON THIS BLESSED DAY.—
TO CURSE ME ANYMORE.
AND THERE IS NO ONE LEFT

I SHARE WITH YOU...
AND THIS HAPPINESS
I WILL SHARE WITH EVERYONE ELSE
THROUGH THIS DANCE!!

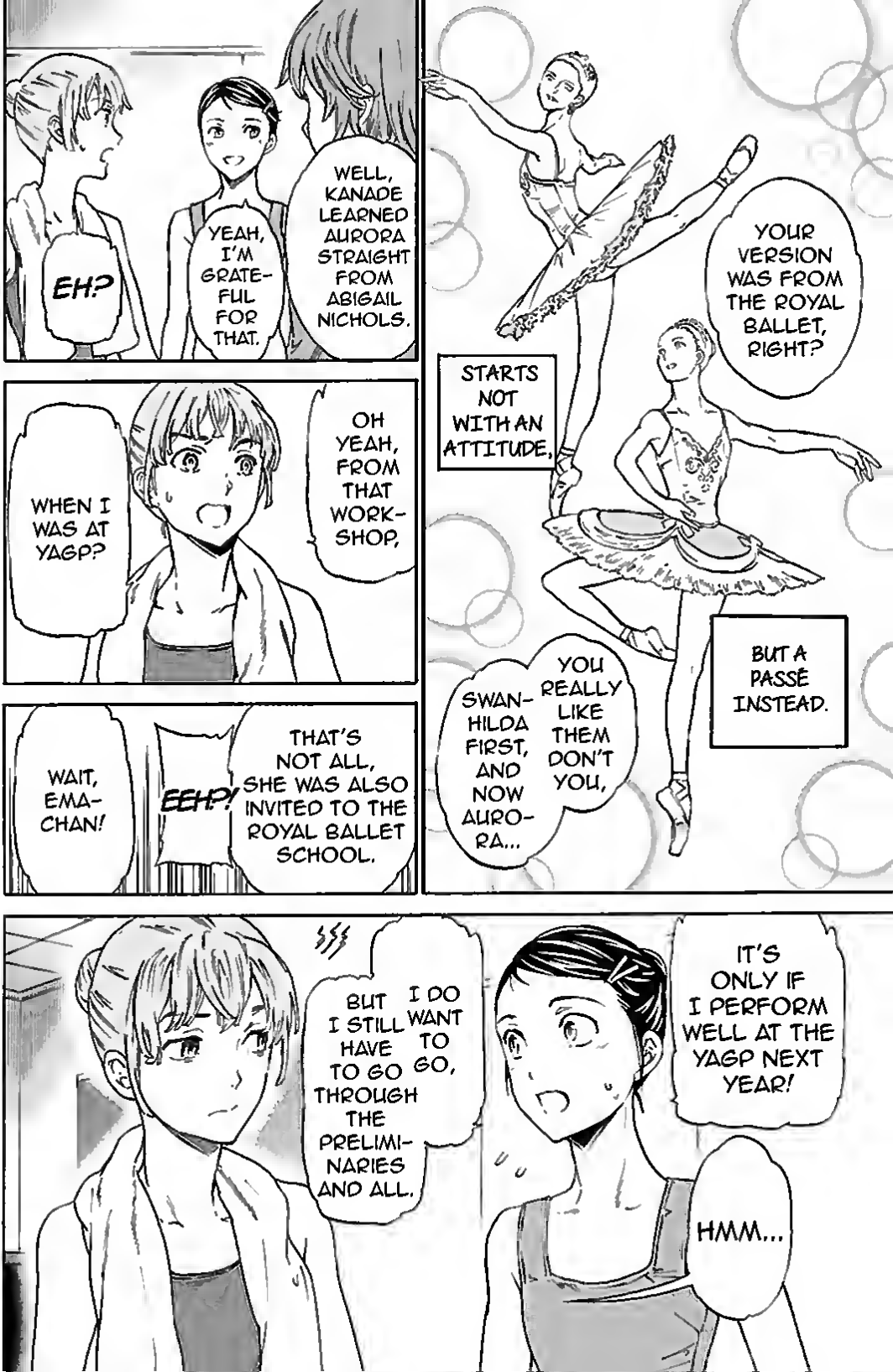
ぱち
ぱち
ぱち
♪!
ぱ
...HA,
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA

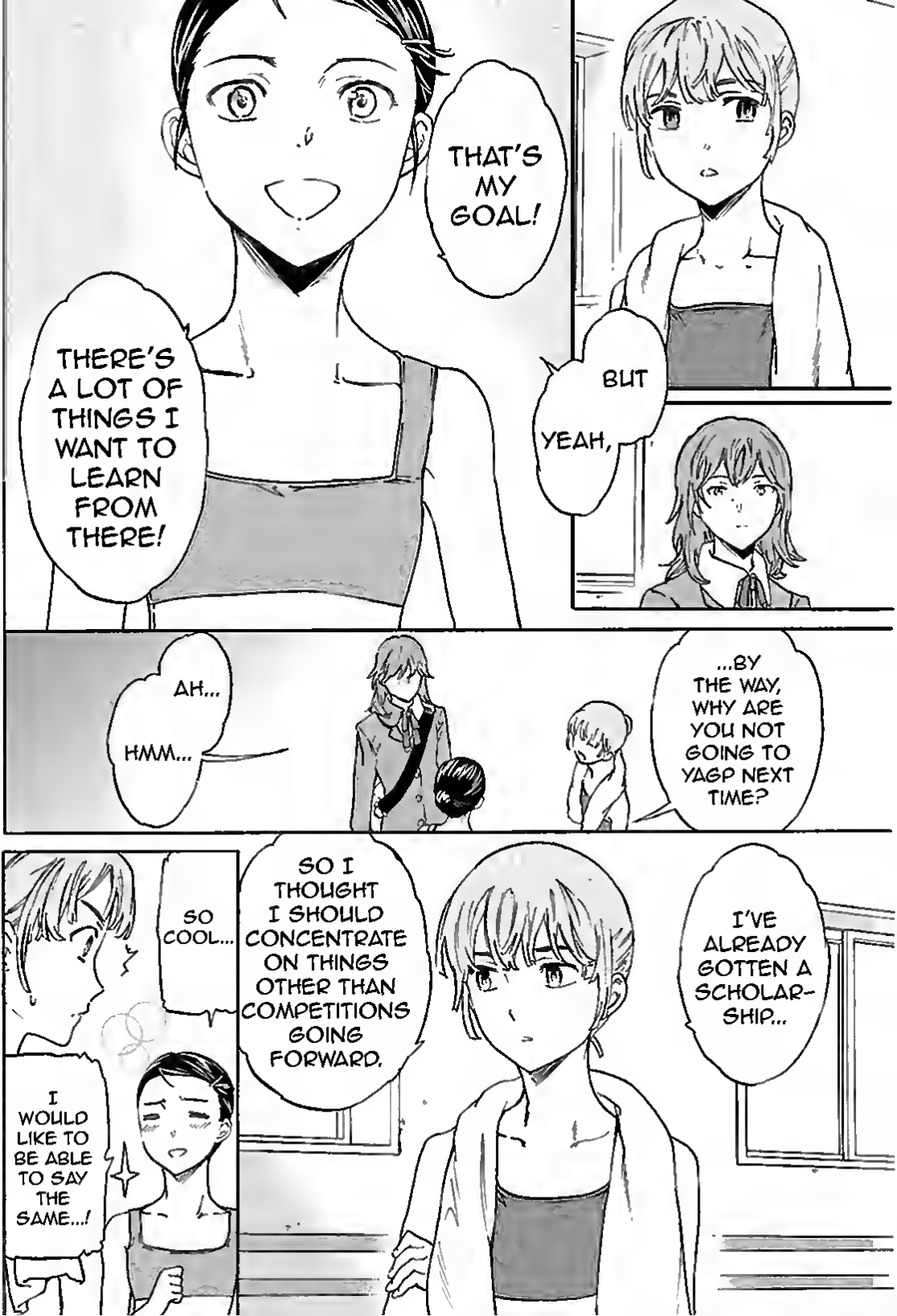
I LOST! I LOST!
HAHA... HAAA...
ELE-GANCE MIGHT BE THE BETTER WORD.
YOU REALLY THINK SO?!
AM I WRONG?
LOVA-BLE?!
I THOUGHT WE WERE HAVING A SHOW-DOWN,
BUT HOW CAN YOU GIVE OFF SUCH A LOVABLE AURA?
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, YOUR TECHNIQUE WAS AVERAGE AT BEST,
BUT BY THE MIDDLE, I DIDN'T CARE ABOUT IT ANYMORE.
HAHA...
I KNEW I COULDN'T WIN PURELY ON TECHNIQUE,


PRINCESS OF THE
I TRIED TO SOAK MYSELF IN THE WORLD OF AURORA,
AND MAKE USE OF EVERYTHING I KNOW ABOUT IT.
ESPECIALLY SINCE I DON'T DANCE AURORA,
SO THAT'S WHY I CONCENTRATED ON MY ACTING.
OH, AND I MADE SURE TO AVOID LOOKING IN THE MIRROR, TOO.
...THE MIRROR?
IF I'D LOOKED INTO IT, I WOULD INEVITABLY HAVE TAKEN NOTICE OF MY POOR TECHNIQUE COMPARED TO SAKURA'S,
AND THAT WOULD HAVE AFFECTED MY ACTING FOR SURE!


THE SAKURA THAT I KNEW,
THE ONE WHO WOULD LOSE HER TEMPER AND SNAP AT ANYONE...
WAIT, DIDN'T YOU JUST ADMIT DEFEAT BEFORE THE JUDGMENT, ANYWAY?
LIKE I SAID, I DIDN'T CARE ABOUT IT ANYMORE HALFWAY THROUGH.
EEH?!
BUT IT FEELS SO GREAT!
IT'S REALLY EXHAUSTING TO COMPETE AGAINST SAKURA BECAUSE I THINK ABOUT TOO MUCH STUFF WHILE DANCING,
HAHA, YOU'RE RIGHT.
...SO IT'S COME TO NOT CARING ABOUT THE OUTCOME AGAIN?
SAKURA HAS CHANG-ED.
HAS BEEN TAMED BY KANADE.

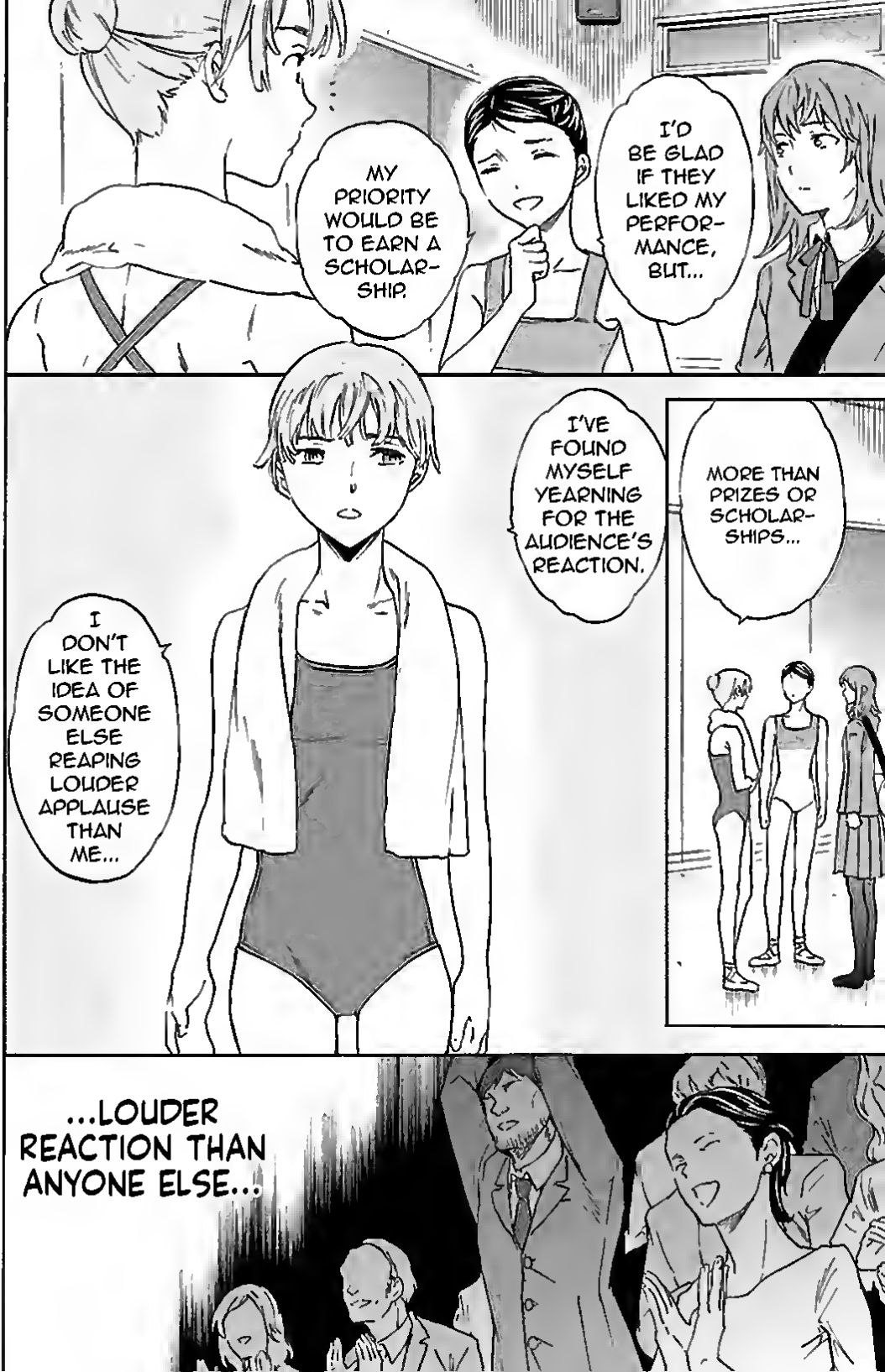
SINCE I ASKED YOU TO BE OUR JUDGE,
WHAT'S YOUR VERDICT?
EH?
WELL, IN ANY CASE, EMA?
IS KANADE THE VICTOR?
OR AM I?
...IN ACTING AND ATMOS-PHERE, KANADE,
REAL-LY?!
AND SAKURA IN TECH-NIQUE,
IT WAS AS UNCOM-FORTABLE TO WATCH AS IT WAS GOOD.
UNCOM-FORTA-BLE...
WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?


EH?
YEAH, I'M GRATEFUL FOR THAT.
WELL, KANADE LEARNED AURORA STRAIGHT FROM ABIGAIL NICHOLS.
WHEN I WAS AT YAGP?
OH YEAH, FROM THAT WORKSHOP,
WAIT, EMA-CHAN!
EEH?!
THAT'S NOT ALL, SHE WAS ALSO INVITED TO THE ROYAL BALLET SCHOOL.
STARTS NOT WITH AN ATTITUDE,
YOUR VERSION WAS FROM THE ROYAL BALLET, RIGHT?
BUT A PASSÉ INSTEAD.
SWAN-HILDA FIRST, AND NOW AURORA...
YOU REALLY LIKE THEM DON'T YOU,
BUT I STILL HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE PRELIMINARIES AND ALL.
I DO WANT TO GO,
IT'S ONLY IF I PERFORM WELL AT THE YAGP NEXT YEAR!
HMM...

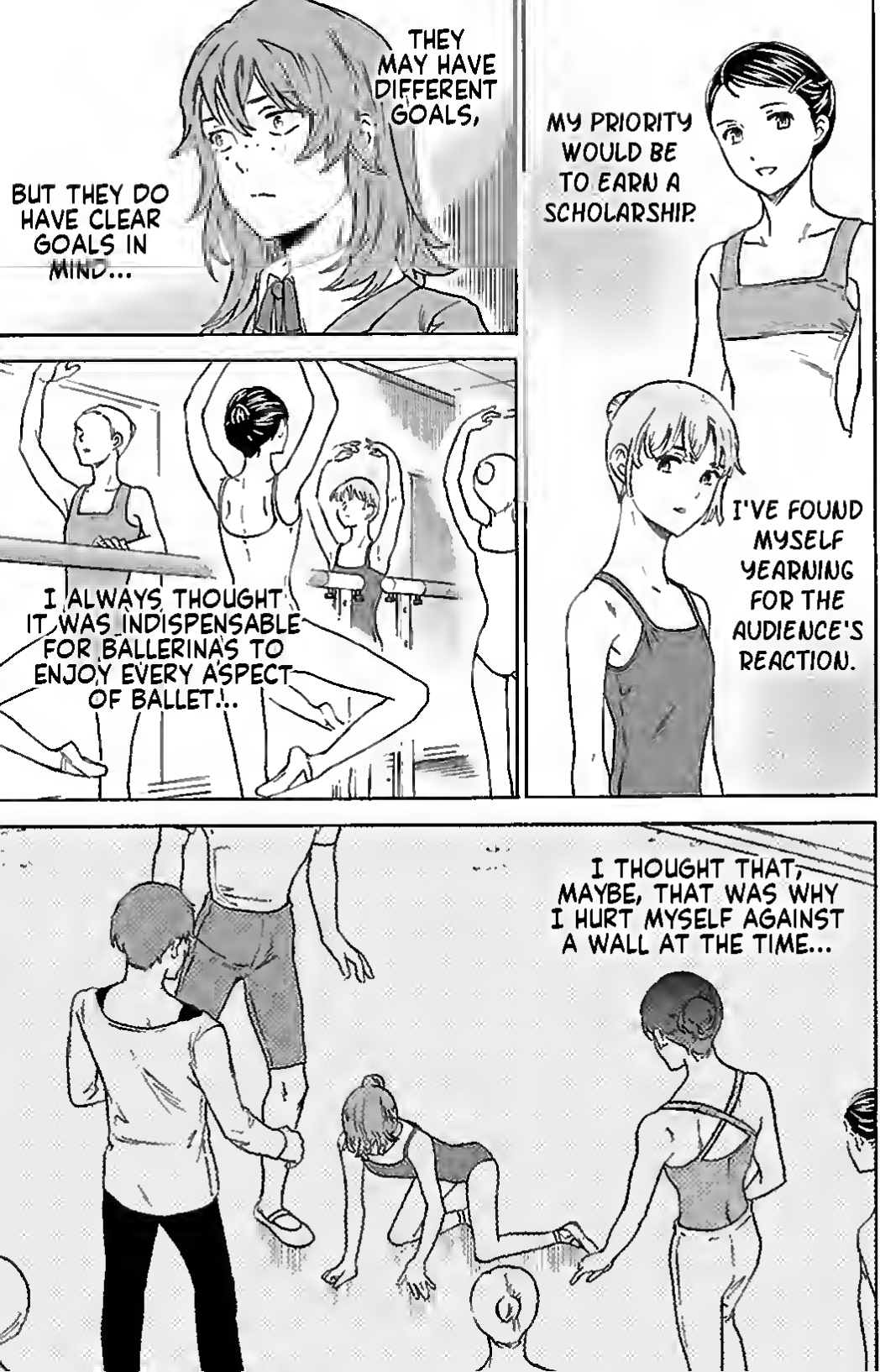

THERE'S A LOT OF THINGS I WANT TO LEARN FROM THERE!
THAT'S MY GOAL!
BUT
YEAH,
AH...
HMM...
...BY THE WAY, WHY ARE YOU NOT GOING TO YAGP NEXT TIME?
I'VE ALREADY GOTTEN A SCHOLAR-SHIP...
SO I THOUGHT I SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON THINGS OTHER THAN COMPETITIONS GOING FORWARD.
SO COOL...
I WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO SAY THE SAME...!

You did make it to the final round, though!
IF THERE'S ANYTHING I KNOW ABOUT YOU, IT'S THAT YOU ARE NOT WEAK!
FROM YOU OR THE COMPE-TITION!
I AM NOT RUNNING AWAY
DON'T THINK MY RESULT AT THE YAGP HAS ANY-THING TO DO WITH THIS DECI-SION!
...
...SA-KURA?
ANDREA?
YOU'LL HAVE TO REFINE YOUR AURORA A LOT!
IF YOU WANT TO WIN AGAINST ANDREA MENDOZA

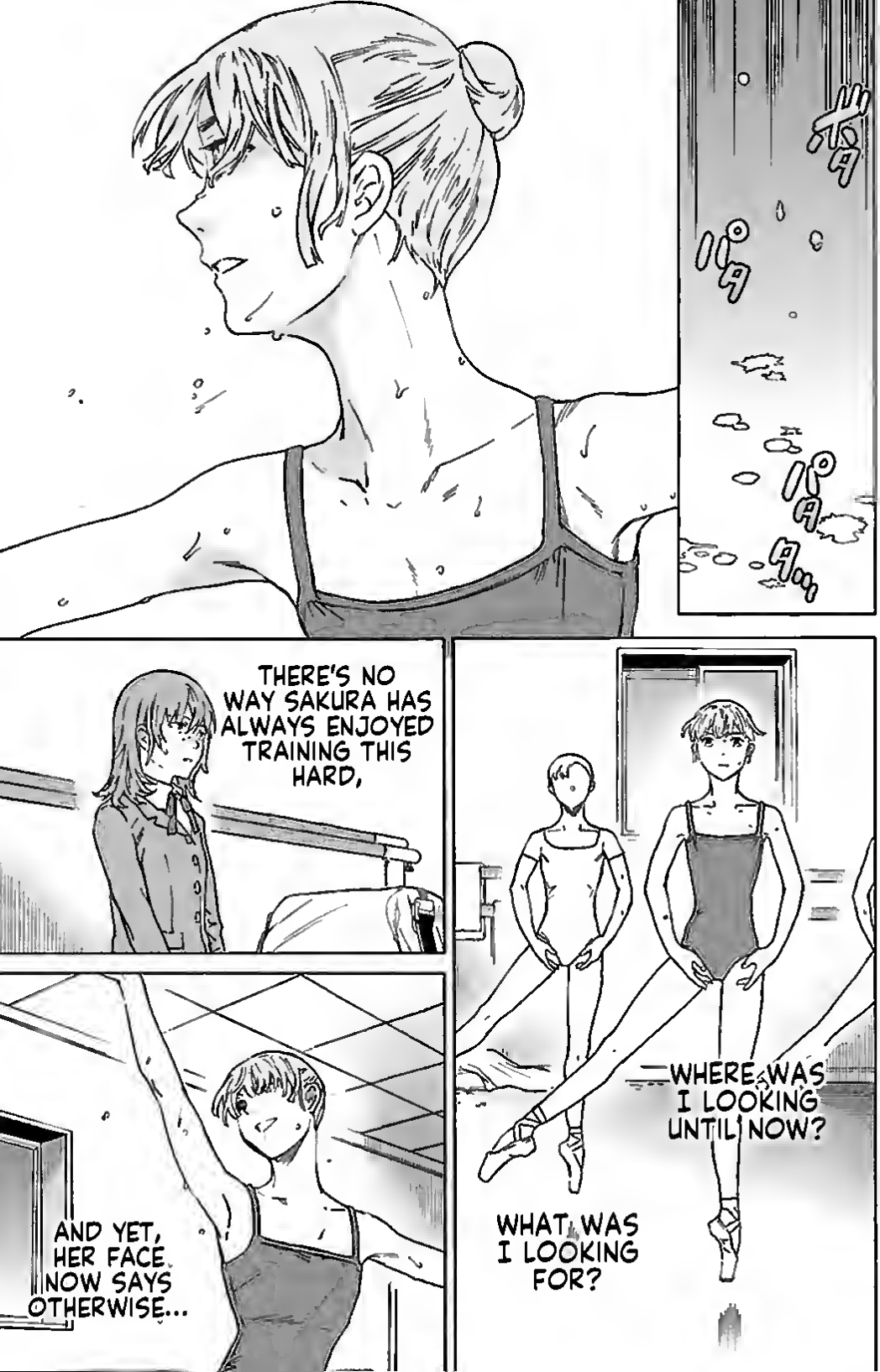
OH YEAH!
THAT'S THE GIRL WHO CAUGHT MY EYE!
THE GIRL WHO DANCED DIANA AFTER ME,
THE GIRL WHO WON THE SILVER MEDAL IN THE JUNIOR CATEGORY.
SHE MIGHT WIN NEXT YEAR, SINCE THE GOLD MEDALIST WILL MOVE ONTO THE SENIOR CATE-GORY.
...I'LL DO MY BEST, BUT I ACTUALLY WON'T BE DANCING AURORA.
ALL THE MORE IMPOR-TANT, THEN!!
POUR YOURSELF INTO PRACTICE, AND BEAT ANDREA TO HER OWN GAME!
SHOW THE AMERICAN AUDIENCE HOW IT'S DONE!
WHAT?!
I'LL ACTUALLY BE DOING DIANA, TOO.


I'D BE GLAD IF THEY LIKED MY PERFORMANCE, BUT...
MY PRIORITY WOULD BE TO EARN A SCHOLARSHIP.
MORE THAN PRIZES OR SCHOLARSHIPS...
I'VE FOUND MYSELF YEARNING FOR THE AUDIENCE'S REACTION.
I DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF SOMEONE ELSE REAPING LOUDER APPLAUSE THAN ME...
...LOUDER REACTION THAN ANYONE ELSE...!

...IT'S REALLY HARD TO ADMIT THAT SHE'S ONE WHOLE STEP AHEAD OF ME.
WELL, IT'S CERTAINLY NOT IN JAPAN THAT SHE'D GET THOSE.
I SEE...
BUT SHE'S ALREADY EARNED A SCHOLARSHIP ANYWAY.
THERE ARE SOME THINGS I WANT TO TRY WHILE SAKURA'S CHOREOGRAPHY IS STILL FRESH IN MY MIND!
I THINK I'LL PRACTICE AURORA A BIT AFTER TODAY'S LESSON...


THEY MAY HAVE DIFFERENT GOALS,
BUT THEY DO HAVE CLEAR GOALS IN MIND...
MY PRIORITY WOULD BE TO EARN A SCHOLARSHIP.
I'VE FOUND MYSELF YEARNING FOR THE AUDIENCE'S REACTION.
I ALWAYS THOUGHT IT WAS INDISPENSABLE FOR BALLERINAS TO ENJOY EVERY ASPECT OF BALLET...
I THOUGHT THAT, MAYBE, THAT WAS WHY I HURT MYSELF AGAINST A WALL AT THE TIME...

BUT I TRIED MY BEST TO BE PRAISED BY THE TEACHERS
I LOATHED TRAINING...
I WANTED CONFIRMATION, I NEEDED IT.
SO THAT I WOULD BE CHOSEN OVER SAKURA.


パタ
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THERE'S NO WAY SAKURA HAS ALWAYS ENJOYED TRAINING THIS HARD,
WHERE WAS I LOOKING UNTIL NOW?
WHAT WAS I LOOKING FOR?
AND YET, HER FACE NOW SAYS OTHERWISE...

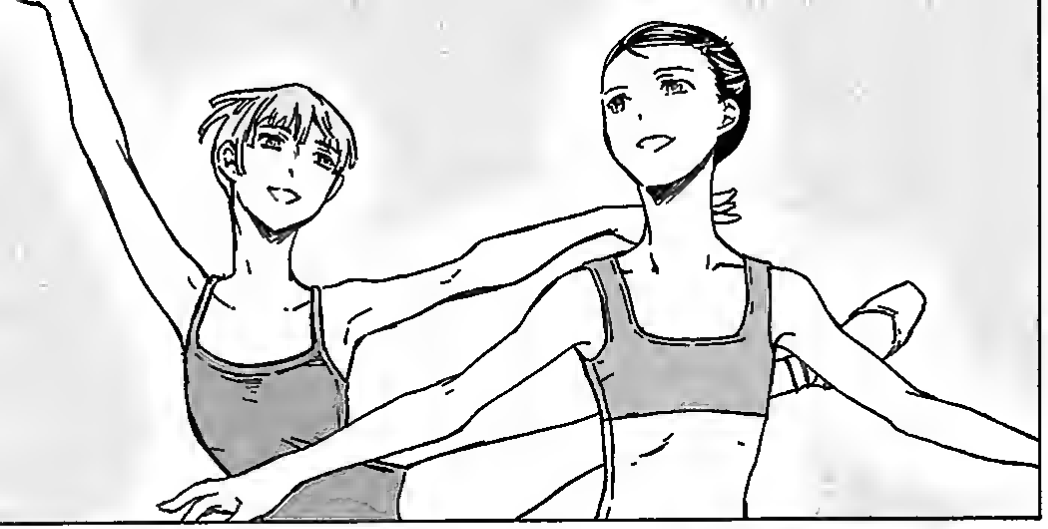
THAT'S ALL FOR TODAY.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

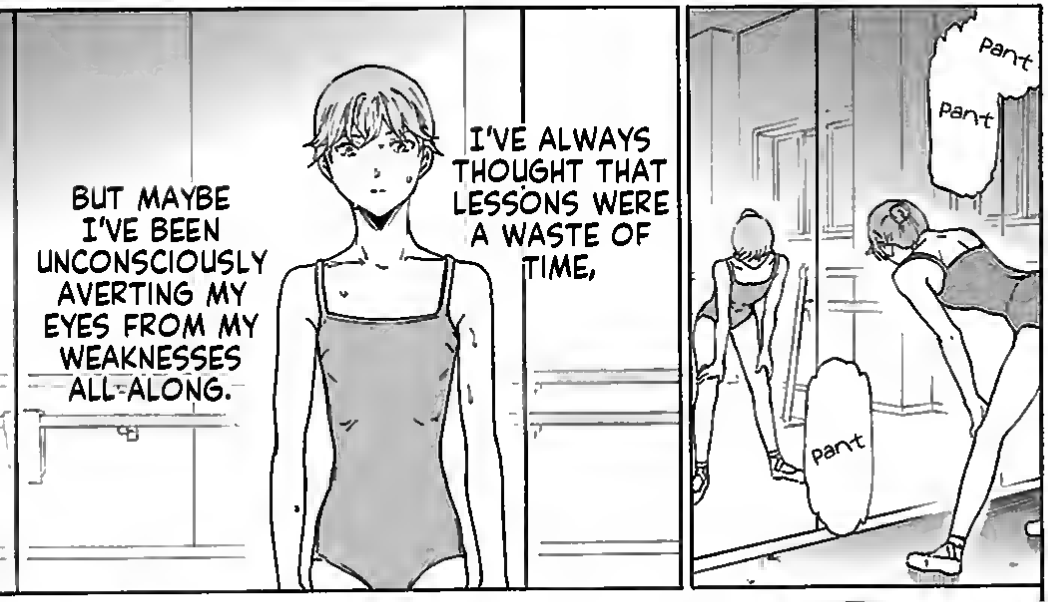
IF YOU LOOK AT YOURSELF IN THE MIRROR,
YOU WILL NOTICE YOUR MISTAKES.

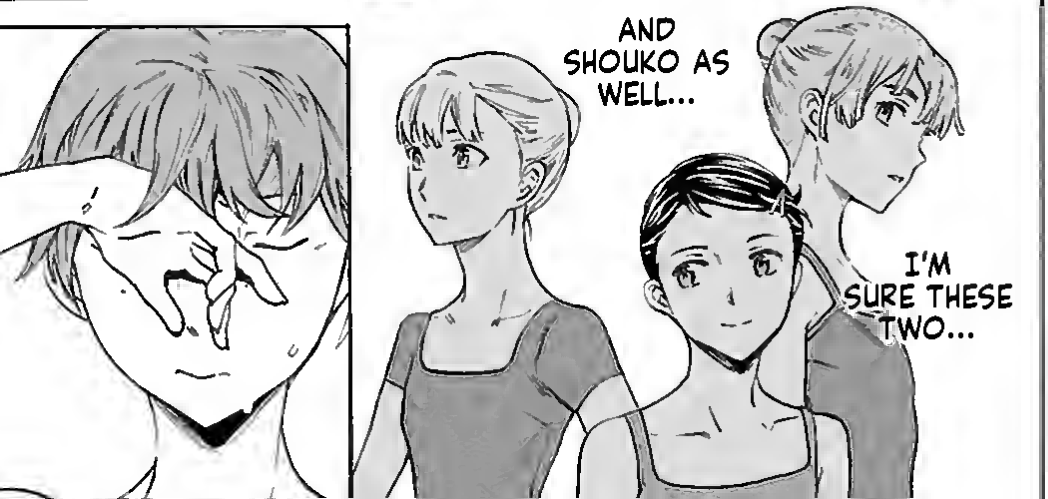
AURORA
ACT III
VARIATION.
LET'S TRY SAKURA'S CHOREO-GRAPHY...

I REMEMBER THE CHOREOGRAPHY, BUT...
IS AURORA'S PORT DE BRAS HARDER THAN I REMEMBER?

NOT ELEGANT AT ALL...
IT'S NOT ELEGANT,




I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT LESSONS WERE A WASTE OF TIME,
BUT MAYBE I'VE BEEN UNCONSCIOUSLY AVERTING MY EYES FROM MY WEAKNESSES ALL-ALONG.
Pant
Pant
Pant

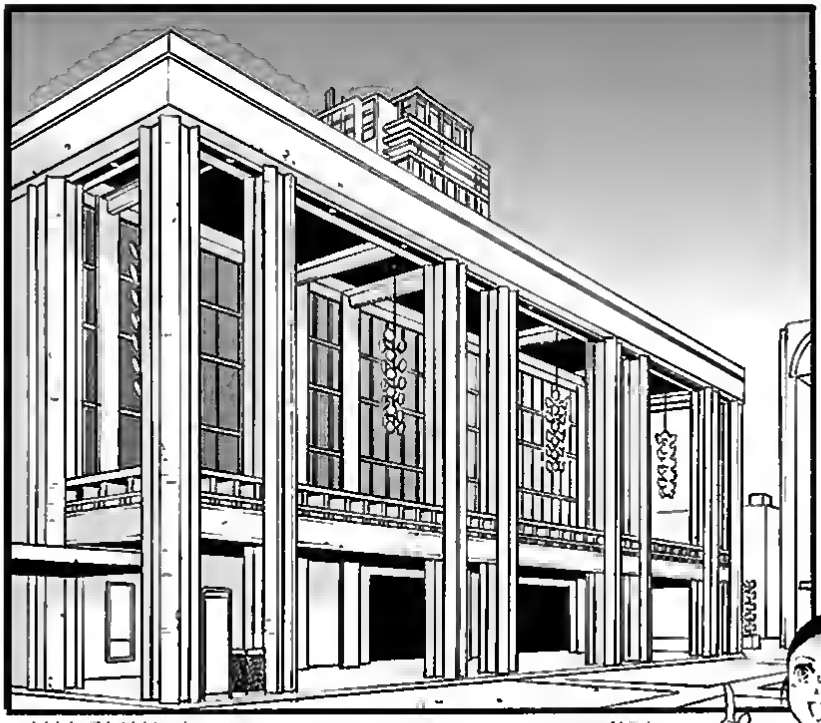

AND SHOUKO AS WELL...
I'M SURE THESE TWO...

HAD THEY GONE THROUGH MY SITUATION.
WOULDN'T HAVE COME OUT LIKE ME
TO GIVE IT MY BEST,
FOR THE SAKE OF GOING AND AIMING FOR A PRIZE AT YAGP!!
SO, HOWEVER PAINFUL IT MIGHT BE,
I'LL TRY ONCE AGAIN,

作品世界への道案内

現在、国内外で開催されているバレエ・コンクールは、非常にたくさんありますが、
中でも、上位入賞者にスカラシップ(奨学金)が与えられたり、
プロバレエ団からのスカウトがあったりするものは、やはり人気で、
必然的に規模も大きく、参加者のレベルも高いです。
いわゆる、三大バレエ・コンクールとは、ブルガリアのヴァルナ、アメリカのジャクソン、
ロシアのモスクワ国際バレエ・コンクールを指しますが、
若いダンサーの育成自体を目的とした
国際コンクールとしては、スイスのローザンヌと、
アメリカのYAGP(ユース・アメリカ・グランプリ)が
あげられるでしょう。

YAGPは初回の開催が1999年と、比較的新しいコンクールですが、
その開催規模や参加人数、奨学金の総額は、今や世界最大レベルとなっており、
第一線で活躍するプロのダンサーを、これまでに次々と輩出してきました。
各国、各地域で行われる予選と、それを突破した参加者によるNY本選がありますが、
いずれも、審査期間は参加者が各自準備したヴァリエーションを踊るだけではなく、
有名講師による振付指導や、クラスレッスン審査、本選では全員参加のガラ公演の
練習と本番も行われるなど、スケジュールもハード。
それでもプロダンサーへのチャンスを掴むために、若い子達が目を輝かせて挑む姿は、
とても眩しいです。
『ファースト・ポジション』というベス・カーグマン監督によるドキュメンタリー映画にも、
その様子が克明に描かれているので、YAGPに興味を持った方にオススメします。
また、国内のコンクールでは一般客の観覧が可能なものもありますので、
一度、観にいかれるのもいいかもしれません。



↑近年、本選会場になっているディヴィッド・H・コーク劇場

THE POSTSCRIPT
ザ・ポストスクリプト

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□SPECIAL THANKS□

H.Natori

The Tokyo Ballet

YAGP

Kumiko Murayama
[The Ballet Scholar]

Maiko Nishino
[The Ballet Dancer]

AND YOU!

Champion RED Comics
チャンピオンRED コミックス

絢爛（けんらん）たるグランドセーヌ6

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（禁／無断転載・放送・上映・上演・複写・公衆送信・Web上での画像掲載）

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